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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

23548      7590      09/08/2009

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD  
700 THIRTEENTH ST. NW  
SUITE 300  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| EXAMINER          |              |
| MENON, KRISHNAN S |              |
| ART UNIT          | PAPER NUMBER |
| 1797              |              |

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2009

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/520,080      | 01/05/2005  | Abdoulaye Doucoure   | 440993/PALL         | 2797             |

TITLE OF INVENTION: UV TREATED MEMBRANES

| APPLN. TYPE    | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE   |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO           | \$1510        | \$300               | \$0                  | \$1810           | 12/08/2009 |

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

**HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:**

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

## PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**  
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**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**  
**or Fax (571)-273-2885**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

23548            7590            09/08/2009  
**LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD**  
**700 THIRTEENTH ST. NW**  
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**WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960**

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

### **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

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| 10/520,080      | 01/05/2005  | Abdoulaye Doucoure   | 440993/PALL         | 2797             |

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| nonprovisional    | NO           | \$1510         | \$300               | \$0                  | \$1810           | 12/08/2009 |
| EXAMINER          | ART UNIT     | CLASS-SUBCLASS |                     |                      |                  |            |
| MENON, KRISHNAN S |              | 1797           | 210-500360          |                      |                  |            |

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,  
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent):  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

Issue Fee  
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
 Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

A check is enclosed.  
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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| LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD<br>700 THIRTEENTH ST. NW<br>SUITE 300<br>WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960 |             |                      |                     | MENON, KRISHNAN S       |
| ART UNIT  |             | PAPER NUMBER         |                     |                         |
| 1797  |             |                      |                     | DATE MAILED: 09/08/2009 |

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 186 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 186 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

|                               |                        |                     |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                               | 10/520,080             | DOUCOUR ET AL.      |  |
|                               | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                               | Krishnan S. Menon      | 1797                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to RCE of 7/31/09.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-11,14,16-18,32-37 and 41-46.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Jeremy Jay on 8/25/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amendment to claims: an amended claims list follows starting on a fresh page below. re

Claims 1,2,4-11,14,16-18,32-37, and 41-46 are allowed.

Claims as amended overcomes the Gardella reference. Claims are allowed over applicant's showing that the CWST in the references may not be entirely through the depth as claimed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krishnan S. Menon whose telephone number is 571-272-1143. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

***AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS***

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A microporous PTFE membrane comprising:  
a first surface and a second surface and a thickness and bulk defined by  
the first and second surfaces, the microporous PTFE membrane modified by  
subjecting the microporous PTFE membrane to non-coherent broadband UV  
irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid, the  
membrane having a critical wetting surface tension (CWST) of at least about 40  
dynes/cm (.40 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness and bulk of the microporous PTFE  
membrane, a wetting/dewetting ratio of at least about .7 for 2 or more cycles, and  
wherein the first and second surfaces each have a fluorine/carbon (F/C) ratio of  
about ~~1.2~~1.5 or more and an oxygen/carbon (O/C) ratio in the range of from  
about 0.01 to about 0.15.
2. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane according  
to claim 1-having a low level of extractables.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane of claim 6,  
having a CWST of at least about 40 dynes/cm (.40 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>).
5. (Previously Presented) The microporous PTFE membrane of claim 1,  
having a water bubble point of at least about 33 psi.
6. (Currently Amended) A microporous PTFE membrane comprising:

a first surface and a second surface and a thickness defined by the first and second surfaces, the microporous PTFE membrane modified by subjecting the microporous PTFE membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid, the membrane having a CWST of at least 26 dynes/cm (.26 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness and bulk of the microporous PTFE membrane, and a wetting/dewetting ratio of at least about .7 for 2 or more cycles, wherein the microporous PTFE membrane is free of a coating and wherein the first and second surfaces each have a fluorine/carbon (F/C) ratio of about ~~1.2-1.5~~ or more and an oxygen/carbon (O/C) ratio in the range of from about 0.01 to about 0.15.

7. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a nominal pore size in the range of from about 0.02 to about 0.1 microns.

8. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a CWST of at least about 45 dynes/cm (.45 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness of the membrane.

9. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 8, having a CWST of at least about 58 dynes/cm (.58 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>).

10. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having a water bubble point of at least about 45 psi (about 310 kPa).

11. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a water bubble point of at least about 75 psi (about 516.8 kPa).

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, which resists dewetting when contacted with hot water as a degassing fluid.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having less than about 100 ppb extractable matter.

17. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 2, having less than about 30 ppb metal extractable matter.

18. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having less than about 15 ppb metal extractable matter.

19.-31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) A process for treating a fluid comprising contacting the membrane claim 1 with the fluid for treating and recovering the treated fluid.

33. (Original) The process of claim 32, wherein the fluid for treating is a degassing fluid.

34. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, wherein the membrane is free of a coating.

35. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, modified by subjecting the membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid selected from the group

consisting of water, alcohols, hydrogen peroxide, sodium sulfite, ammonium sulfate, ammonium sulfite, sodium aluminate, copper sulfate, boric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid.

36. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, modified by subjecting

the membrane to non-coherent broadband UV irradiation while pores of the membrane are impregnated with a liquid selected from the group consisting of water, alcohols, hydrogen peroxide, sodium sulfite, ammonium sulfate, ammonium sulfite, sodium aluminate, copper sulfate, boric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid.

37. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a CWST of at least about 30 dynes/cm (.30 erg/mm<sup>2</sup>) through the thickness and bulk of the membrane.

38.-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 1, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

42. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 6, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

43. (Previously Presented) The PTFE membrane of claim 37, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

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44. (Currently Amended) The PTFE membrane of claim~~38~~ 4, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

45. (Currently Amended) The PTFE membrane of claim~~39~~ 7, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

46. (Currently Amended) The PTFE membrane of claim~~40~~ 8, having a zeta potential in the range of from about -3 mV to about – 11 mV at a pH in the range of from about 4 to about 9.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vickie Kim can be reached on 571-272-0579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Krishnan S Menon/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797